

A New Philosophy of History and Politics

BY AUSTIN J. APP, PH.D.

THE THING that apparently did Drew Pearson in was the book, *Imperium*.^{*} At any rate, when in his column of April 17, 1969, he called its author a "neo-Nazi philosopher" who "declared in his book that a massive attack upon Russia across the plains of Europe was the only solution," he was still hale and hearty.

Then he learned and so reported in his column of May 2, 1969 that the National Youth Alliance was taking its ideology from *Imperium* and Willis A. Carto was "going ahead with a \$17,000 program to publish *Imperium* in paperback for distribution on the campuses." Presumably he then read *Imperium* himself and became so apoplectic about it that by September 1 his soul had departed to Satan's bosom.

Inasmuch as Roosevelt and Stalin and recently Ho Chi Minh have already gone there, too, *Imperium* will not in the foreseeable future have another chance to do humanity so good a turn!

The Book and Its Author

Since Pearson's demise I have read the book again to discover what in it so enrages liberals, fellow-travellers, and Reds. I found nowhere that author Yockey as an "only solution" urged a massive attack upon Russia but certainly much evidence that he considered Soviet Russia a ruinous plague which it

was a crime for Roosevelt to lend-lease into Berlin.

The book is long. It is not easy reading. It is doubtful whether Pearson, whom even Walter Reuther called "not only a chronic liar, but a fool," adequately understood it. It is also discursive, more as if poured out than patterned, but encyclopedic in its allusiveness. It reflects both the circumstance that Yockey wrote it in seclusion at Brittas Bay, Ireland, without a library, and that he must have been a phenomenally well-read genius — such is the range of his historical, philosophical, and political allusions. He was an honor graduate from Notre Dame in 1941; an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Detroit, and in 1946 a member of the Nuremberg War Crimes trialists.

The spectacle of American liberals collaborating with the unspeakable Bolshevik criminals in trying Germans nauseated him into resigning and writing this book in seclusion at Brittas Bay. For it the State Department refused to renew his passport. When he travelled anyhow, they jailed him in San Francisco, held him on \$50,000 bail, as if he were a monster criminal. Eleven days later he was found dead in his cell. Suicide for a Catholic seems unlikely—but persecution could drive a man to it.

Heartland of Western Culture

Even a superficial reader can soon perceive why communists, anti-Chris-

^{*}*Imperium: The Philosophy of History and Politics*, Francis Parker Yockey. The Noontide Press, 1969, 626 pp., \$2.50 paperback.

tians, Rooseveltians and Morgenthauists would be moved to wrath by *Imperium*. Yockey treats Europe as the heartland of Western Culture, and he considers Germany as the heart of Europe.

He regards Culture, not race or nationality, as the most distinctive and distinguishing factor in the world. Races, he holds, are not pure, racial strains tend to mix and merge. But what does not merge are different cultures, founded on antithetical ideologies (e.g. cannibalism and vegetarianism). Either those with the higher culture absorb those with the lower, or the stronger exterminate or expel the others, or they exist side by side tensely, in a sort of cold war. This is worst when a tough, aggressive divergent lower cultural minority keeps subverting and distorting the dominant culture.

Tension Due to Culture, Not Race

Aggressive cultural disparity, he holds, causes the tension between Jews and Western culture, when it is pure. While he writes only of Western Culture, not of the Christian Culture of the West, the latter is implicit. Western Culture is the product of Christianity grafted on the ancient Greek and Roman cultures. It is to this that the carriers of the Hebrew or Talmudic Culture are antagonistic and by which it rejects absorption. Not race is the obstacle, but ideology and the way of life produced by it.

He finds that German national socialism and Italian fascism cannot at all be equated with bolshevism but are diametrically opposite. They were the logical philosophies for defending Western Culture against the frightful menace of Soviet-Russian communism. Soviet Russia everywhere promulgates its tyranny under the phony banner of 'democracy,' e.g. the German *Democratic Republic*. Regrettably, therefore, because America has made a religion of "democracy," it is especially ex-

posed to communistic subversion and to cultural distortion by Reds and Fellow-travellers.

That tragically explains why instead of championing Western Culture—and Europe — against atheistic, Eurasian terror, Rooseveltian America collaborated with Soviet Russia to destroy Germany and Italy.

In so doing it gave Soviet Russia a superiority over all of Europe. It endangered all of Western civilization, it did not even advantage Britain, it gave America lasting cold-war jitters. It was, in fact, a victory only for Soviet Russia and for the Culture distorters among us and in the world, who got Palestine out of it and blackmailed reparations from Germany. He blamed the influence of the latter in the Roosevelt administration and in our communications media and cinema for the intervention in a war from which we could not benefit, for Unconditional Surrender, and for the Morgenthauism, which betrayed half of Europe directly to the Bolsheviks and installed them in Budapest, Prague, and Berlin.

Consequent Demoralization in America

Their revenge on Christian Europe not only brought all of it to the brink of bolshevism, but exposed even these United States to the danger of losing its Western Culture to some form of communism and possibly even its independence. Yockey deplores the growing tide of pornography, the paganizing of literature and the arts, the increase of illegitimacy, abortion, and divorce, the permissiveness towards juvenile delinquency and gang violence and criminality, as marks of culture distorting corruption.

When we reflect that he wrote in 1948, before the draft dodging, the race riots, the terrorism in the streets, the student revolts, before the epidemic escalation of dope addiction, before the breakdown of obscenity laws, before prayer in school was outlawed but in-

struction in sexuality was introduced, then we note the prophecy of Yockey's prediction that our democracy was being distorted into atheism and communism!

Yockey suggests that democracy which cannot or will not defend itself against subverters and criminals, which puts permissiveness for the "rights" of the criminal and the bum before the protection of the lives and the property of the innocent carries within it the seeds of disintegration.

Preserving Our Western Heritage

This frightful break-down of Christian Culture in America Yockey plays upon throughout his book. It is a kind of passionate plea for regeneration, for preserving it. He wants it restored and preserved at home. But he further insists that since America did not create it but took it over from Europe, it cannot preserve it without preserving and restoring it in Europe, too.

I did not find him anywhere suggesting that this should be done by a preventive or any other kind of war against Soviet Russia. What he seems to suggest is that the U.S. should encourage a strong and united Germany in a united Europe, that it should commend the will to freedom in the captive nations, and that it should denounce, rather than collaborate with, Soviet-Russian colonialism and brutality.

Marxism Contrasted with Socialism

He exposes the fallacies of Darwinism and Malthusianism and he utterly condemns Marxism. He exposes it as based on hate, class war, extermination of the upper classes, nihilistic. Then, curiously, he juxtaposes it to "socialism," which he extols as benign, as dignifying work, inducing cooperation, honoring rank and place in society. Clearly, he does not mean by socialism what is conventionally meant, the one meant by Pope Pius XI when he said, "No one can be at the same time a

sincere Catholic and a true Socialist" (*Quad. Anno*, 1931).

The socialism he means is evidently what its Christian friends would call "Corporatism," but which its enemies would call fascism or "national socialism." Corporatism is the opposite of proletarianism. Instead of regarding society horizontally, as consisting of classes, often conflicting, it regards society vertically, in groupings according to industries and trades and professions, cooperatively, employers and employees as one, doctors and clients, professors and students. It is the underlying principles of Franco's Spain, Salazar's Portugal, and was of Mussolini's Italy (which had twenty-two such corporations). Several Popes and perhaps most Catholic political scientists favored corporatism.

Study of German and Italian Systems

Yockey certainly wants to say that neither the national socialism in Germany nor the fascism of Italy were any menace to the U.S. whatsoever and gave us no valid reason for allying ourselves with Bolshevistic Russia to destroy those heartland countries of Western Culture. One might even find that he implies that our Republicanism could profitably study them and so learn how to combat communism effectively in order to prevent subversion and cultural deterioration.

I would not want to defend all the implications and every statement in Yockey's book. But it is tremendously provocative; it is probably a landmark in American political writing. Taken as a whole, it is for a decent, Christian world order and it is uncompromisingly anti-communistic. It does not advocate a Morgenthauistic genocide for anyone, not even for the Bolsheviks, but it does want Europe, including Germany, rehabilitated, and Soviet Russia to be pressured out of it. It is good reading in these tragic, post-Rooseveltian, cold war years!